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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD
Office of the Executive Secretary

16 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Ray S. Cline, Deputy Director (Intelligence),
Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. Allan Evans, Deputy Director for Research,
Intelligence and Research, Department of State
[redacted] Chief of Staff,
[redacted]
[redacted] Deputy Assistant Director for
Production, National Security Agency
Mr. Ludwell L. Montague, Board of National
Estimates, Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT : Revitalization of PNIOs

A draft memorandum on the subject has been prepared under Mr. Cline's direction in light of the discussion at the last meeting of the PNIO Review Committee. It is circulated herewith for consideration by the PNIO Review Committee at a meeting scheduled for 1430 hours Monday, 22 April in Room 7 E 30, CIA Headquarters Building.

[redacted]
Executive Secretary, USIB

Attachment

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MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Revitalization of PNIOs

1. At present, PNIOs are used for two quite dissimilar purposes: as a basis for the planning, funding and development of intelligence resources in a long-term context, and as a description of intelligence problems calling for research, estimative production, and priority reallocation of collection resources over a short term. Pulled in two directions, PNIOs in their present form can be found wanting for either purpose.

2. In an effort to restore PNIOs to their originally intended role as "a guide for the coordination of intelligence collection and production" in response to the needs of national security policy, the following proposals are offered:

a. Replace the text of paragraph 1 of DCID 1/2, Comprehensive National Intelligence Objectives, with a less generalized but still long-term statement of major intelligence objectives somewhat as set forth in categories 1 and 2 of the present PNIOs. The existing Comprehensive National Intelligence Objectives, unchanged since 1958, are so broad and encyclopedic as to be virtually meaningless. A statement of the general objectives expected

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to control the intelligence community for a considerable time in the future would endow this DCID with fresh usefulness to the intelligence process and, with a validity term of five years (though subject to semi-annual review), it could serve one of the roles now encumbering the PNIOs: a basis for long-term development, training and deployment of collection capabilities, and the budgeting therefor. This would bring some stability to these protracted processes, while giving them real relevance to the enduring concerns of national security policy.

b. Redraft the present (January 1963) version of the PNIOs - DCID 1/3 - to reflect more current and relatively short-term future concerns of the intelligence community. These PNIOs would be expected to contain objectives that would remain valid for approximately a year ahead, but they would be subject to reexamination every six months. As a separate document from the new CNIOs, these could be revised and kept current as reflections of changing intelligence problems without jeopardizing the stability and continuity of long-term programs in response to the CNIOs. Since both CNIOs and PNIOs would be reviewed at the same time, they could readily be kept in basic consonance with one another, the former the long-range plan, and the latter the intermediate steps toward the long-range objectives.

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c. Establish as a permanent subcommittee of USIB a National Intelligence Objectives Committee (NIOC). This committee would include representatives of ONE and its estimative counterparts in USIB agencies, and would be charged with carrying out the semi-annual reviews of CNIOs and PNIOs described above, assisted by established USIB subcommittees dealing with specific fields of collection, e.g., COMOR, IPC, et.al. The primary task of NIOC would be to make recommendations to USIB on the practical implications of both the CNIOs and PNIOs for national intelligence production and collection programs so as to ensure that the intelligence community's actions are pertinent to national security policy problems. Implementation of such recommendations as approved by USIB would be the province of the USIB collection committees or the production and collection elements of individual USIB agencies, not of the NIOC.

3. Adoption of the above proposal would enable national security policy makers and USIB to express themselves on both long-term and relatively short-term needs with assurance of relative permanence with regard to the former and with improved flexibility with regard to the latter. The community in both its production and collection areas would receive from a common source reasonably concrete long-term development and deployment guidance for planning purposes and positive and specific requirements to meet the needs

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of the nearer future. The NIOC would insure repeated high-level review of both sets of directives, which in turn would insure up-to-date supervision and coordination among and within the activities of the several USIB agencies.

4. There is attached as TAB A a proposed draft for new CNIOs, as TAB B a proposal for new PNIOs and a sample DCID 1/3, and as TAB C a draft charter for the NIOC.

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Approved For Release 2003/07/03 : CIA-RDP82R00129R000100070021-0

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TAB C

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTIVE NO. 1/ ____

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES COMMITTEE

(Effective ____ April 1963)

Pursuant to paragraph 3b (1) (b) and (c), NSCID No. 1 and to provide for a regular review and revision of Comprehensive National Intelligence Objectives (CNIOs) (DCID 1/2) and Priority National Intelligence Objectives (PNIOs) (DCID 1/3) as basic and current guides for the coordination of intelligence collection and production in response to the needs of national security policy, a standing committee of the United States Intelligence Board on National Intelligence Objectives is hereby established.

1. Composition and Organization.

(a) The Committee shall be known as the National Intelligence Objectives Committee (NIOC) and shall include representatives of the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency. Other member agencies of USIB may be invited by the committee to participate as appropriate. Representatives shall be authorized to speak for their respective agencies in matters related to the committee's functions. The Central Intelligence Agency will provide the committee's chairman and secretariat.

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(b) The Committee may at its discretion organize subcommittees to assist it in discharging its responsibilities; such subcommittees may include representatives of agencies not participating directly in the work of the committee and such other experts or advisors as the substance under consideration by the Committee may warrant.

2. Mission.

The mission of the Committee shall be to review the production and collection programs of the intelligence community with a view to ensuring their relevance and usefulness to developing national security policy problems.

3. Functions.

(a) To make recommendations to the USIB regarding the practical implications of the CNIO's and PNIO's for national intelligence production and collection programs in the light of national security policy problems.

(b) To maintain a current substantive understanding of principal trends and developments in problems and areas of concern to the intelligence community, and, on the basis of this,

(c) To review and revise or reaffirm as necessary on a semi-annual basis the substance of CNIO's and PNIO's and to forward such guidance to the National Security Council.

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(d) To coordinate with other USIB subcommittees to assist in staffing out programs and proposals related to implementation of NIOC findings approved by USIB.

4. Reports.

The committee will report to USIB semi-annually and as directed, and may submit special reports on its own initiative.

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